scientists to attend specialised training programmes out side India.

There is a provision for Temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of scientists Pool. A provision has also been made for the creation of supernumerary posts.

New scientific departments/organisations such as Departments of Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non-conventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics have been set up and some of these are in high technology areas. These are likely to provide job opportunities for the scientists, technologists and doctors.

The financial allocation for science and technology activities have been increased substantially over the successive Five Year Plans.

Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve the orgaisational efficiency and working conditions of scientists.

Poor response to FERA Amnesty Scheme

1016. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was poor response to the FERA amnesty scheme recently announced by Government; and

(b) what is the number of persons, who have so far disclosed their funds to Reserve Bank of India and what is the total amount collected so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Scheme is valid up to 31st March, 1987. A final assessment of the response cannot be made now. Upto 31st February, 1987, the Reserve Bank of India had received 63 declarations under the Scheme. Collection|repatriation under the Scheme will arise only after the Reserve Bank of India has scrutinised the declarations and advised each declarant about the legality or otherwise of his|her overseas interests.

Investment by non-resident Indians

1017. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at a recent conference on the role of non-resident Indians in the development of the country certain suggestions were made to encourage investment by the NRI's in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the decision, if any, taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The conference was organised by a non-official organisation and Government did not officially participate in the discussions.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of CBI

1918. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to expand the Central Bureau of Investigation and to entrust it with new areas of responsibility; and

(b) if so, what are the details regarding its expansion plans and the particulars of the added responsibilities to be entrusted to this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) There is no proposol to entrust the Central Bureau of Investigation with new areas of responsibility. The CBIs staff strength is augmented from time to time to make it functionally effective.

Restriction or opinion growing

1019. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any restrictions at present in growing opium in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) In accordance with the Law, the cultivation of opium poppy in India is permitted in such tracts as may be notified by the Central Government from time to time and such cultivation has to be only on account of Central Government. The cultivation of opium poppy is under strict licensing control as envisaged in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1985.

The licences are issued each year as per the Licensing Principles laid down by the Government taking into consideration the export demand for opium for medical use and prevention of leakage from licit to illicit channel, through requirement of a minium qualifying yield.

Opium cultivation in the country

1020. PROF. C. LAKSHMANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Government has recently suggested to the Government of India to put an end to the opium cultivation in the country for curbing drug menace;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the country in this regard; and

(c) the production of opium in the country during the last three years respectively and the areas where it is grown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The opium poppy cultivation for production of opium in India is confined to the notified tracts in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. The production of opium in these States during the last three years has been as under: